

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 17, 2009

SWAC Members

Mark Glazer, Chair	Paula Jenson	Kurt Osuch
David Frank, Vice Chair	Ed Lee	Craig Simoneau
Steve Findley	Lee Levine	Steve Sprague
Marcia Harrington	Marcia Marks	Ed Violette

Absent: L. Alexander, S. Ducey, S. Filocco, O. Hall

County Staff

Guests

Bill Davidson, DSWS	Peter Karasik, DSWS
Robin Ennis, DSWS	Scott McClure, DSWS
Rick Hands, DSWS	Alan Pultyniewicz, DSWS
Angela Jordan, DSWS	Anthony Skinner, DSWS
Eileen Kao, DSWS	

The regular meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was called to order by the Chair at 7:30 p.m. on March 17, 2009, in the Executive Office Building's Lobby Level Auditorium. Introductions were made.

The Chair welcomed everyone, including new member Kurt Osuch.

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting Minutes – Ms. Marks stated that she wanted the February 10, 2009 minutes amended to show that she made a motion to ban water bottles at County meetings. The minutes were approved as amended.

Subcommittee/Ad Hoc Group Reports – No subcommittees and ad hoc groups met since the last meeting.

Mr. Violette, SWAC's DAFIG representative, reported that the DAFIG meeting held on March 10, 2009 went smoothly. Deer management in the Dickerson area still remains an issue, as there are no lifted hunting restrictions to control the population. DAFIG also discussed its resistance to allow the Site 2 Landfill in Dickerson to be a possible home for the yard trim operation currently at the Transfer Station. A letter was drafted by DAFIG to officially express its opposition.

Mr. Davidson added that the yard trim operation's move is not a done deal. County appropriations are still pending. MDE has ordered remediation work to be done at the Gude Landfill. The work is in progress, but completion will take time. An evaluation will

need to be conducted to MDE's satisfaction, and then sent to the County Council for its approval.

Meeting with County Executive – Mr. Sprague stated that the meeting with Mr. Leggett, the County Executive, was positive and went well. Also present in the meeting were Ms. Jenson and Mr. Levine. They mentioned that Mr. Sprague did very well in representing SWAC by being its spokesperson. Ms. Jenson added that she was pleasantly surprised in the CE's deep interest in recycling, as well as his candor in sharing stories from his past trip to China.

MAJOR PROGRAM TOPIC

Mr. Skinner gave a brief overview of the budget with respect to the FY10 Operating Budget. Then numerous DSWS staff members presented program by program highlights of the CE's FY10 Recommended Operating Budget. Some highlights are:

- FY10's operating budget was increased just over one percent versus FY09's budget.
- DSWS will see an increase of 67 percent for the overall operation and maintenance of existing computer equipment, as well as the purchase of any new automation equipment and technology to support effective and efficient achievement of the Division's mission.
- The Dickerson Master Plan, which includes the RRF, Compost Facility, and Site 2 Landfill, had its budget increase 20 percent. An agreement was reached with local citizens to conduct a lighting study and environmental monitoring. All projects can vary from year to year, and may not be the same. Dickerson's budget for capital equipment was decreased by 27 percent due to lowering the reserve for back up composting. Montgomery County resident have steadily started composting at home. Also, sales of LeafGro, County-produced compost, need to be encouraged.
- The Solid Waste Transfer Station will have a 16% percent increase to its budget due to the shifting of some expenses from the Satellite Site program (the hauling of waste from the Beauty spots) to the Transfer Station program. In addition there were increases in costs for our contractor, Maryland Environmental Service (MES), to handle the mounting tonnage of recyclable material coming to the Transfer Station, especially electronics and yard trim. The Recycling Center will see an increase of 16 percent as well for capital outlay for equipment. The two closed landfills in Montgomery County, Oaks and Gude, will see an increase of two percent and an increase of one percent, respectively. The state has requested the County to prepare and implement a remediation plan for Gude Landfill, so DSWS will likely need to come back to the Council for additional funds at a later date. The Landfill Gas-to-Energy Program is in the works.

- The Beauty Spots will experience a 53 percent decrease in budget, due to the Damascus site being phased out in FY10 and some expenses being shifted to the Transfer Station program. The Poolesville site is a larger property, and will undergo upgrades in FY10.
- The Out-of-County Refuse Disposal budget was decreased 21 percent due to lower tonnage estimates. There is a long-term contract for out-of-county refuse disposal through 2012, with an optional five year extension.
- The budget for Refuse Collection decreased one percent due to lower fuel assumptions in comparison with last year.
- The budget for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and the Ecowise program for businesses both increased six percent for advertising and public education for all HHW programs. This includes environmentally-sound disposal options for compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs), batteries, paint, etc.
- Multi-Family Recycling: Apartment and condominium communities will continue to have an aggressive site visit program, outreach and education, technical assistance, training, enforcement, and hands-on guidance. The budget for multi-family recycling increased by four percent for continued blue bin distribution and providing.
- Recycling Outreach and Education: Educating the public is the only way to ensure proper recycling procedures are being followed. A direct mail piece is proposed to reach 210,000 households with updated information, as well as stressing the importance of reusing, reducing and recycling materials. The “Closing the Loop” educational film is in line for an update. This budget was decreased by seven percent, and provides comprehensive education across all sectors (multi-family, single-family, commercial, etc.)
- Recycling Volunteer Program: Volunteerism has increased over the past year, but will continue to be strongly encouraged, with continued recruitment efforts, training and support. Lead volunteers will be specially trained to pilot more activities and programs. This budget was increased by 27 percent. This portion of the budget also supplies funding for the ever growing compost bin program. There has been a jump in compost bin demand as a result of increased educational efforts, and also with the number of composting workshops. DSWS is continuing to encourage residents to grasscycle and compost their own yard trim by providing the bins at no added charge.

NEW BUSINESS

Letter to the County Council – A letter will need to be drafted addressed to the County Council regarding SWAC’s position on the CE’s Recommended FY10 Budget. There

were very few comments made on the recommended FY10 budget. The committee noticed that given the current fiscal circumstances, the budget still realized a small increase, so there were no objections to the allocation of funds, but a statement of support for outreach and education is still desired.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

ACRONYMS

CE	County Executive
DAFIG	Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
FY	Fiscal Year
MDE	Maryland Department of the Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE														
2008 ATTENDANCE														
	J A N	F E B	M A R	A P R	M A Y	J U N	J U L	A U G	S E P	O C T	N O V	D E C	Absences In Last 12 Months	
Abralind, Jessica		X	X	X	X	X							-1	
Alexander, Leslie		X	X		X	X				X			-3	
Findley, Steve			X	X	X	X				X	X			
Frank, David	X	X	X	X		X				X	X		-1	
Glazer, Mark	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X			
Guernica, Mimi	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X			
Hall, Odell	X		X		X	X				X	X		-2	
Harrington, Marcia	X	X	X	X	X	X				X			-1	
Jenson, Paula		X	X	X	X	X				X	X			
Lee, Ed		X	X	X	X	X					X		-1	
Levine, Lee	X	X	X			X				X	X		-2	
Marks, Marcia	X	X			X	X				X	X		-2	
McCarty, Sean	X	X		X	X						X		-3	
Simoneau, Craig	X	X	X	X	X					X	X		-1	
Sprague, Steve		X	X	X	X	X				X	X			
Violette, Ed				X	X	X				X	X			

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE														
2009 ATTENDANCE														
	J A N	F E B	M A R	A P R	M A Y	J U N	J U L	A U G	S E P	O C T	N O V	D E C	Absences In Last 12 Months	
Alexander, Leslie		X											-4	waiver request
Ducey, Sara													-1	
Findley, Steve	X	X	X											
Filocco, Susan													-1	
Frank, David	X	X	X										-1	
Glazer, Mark	X	X	X											
Hall, Odell		X											-3	Feb '08 dropped off, still at 3 absences
Harrington, Marcia	X	X	X										-1	
Jenson, Paula		X	X										-1	
Lee, Ed	X	X	X										-1	
Levine, Lee	X	X	X										-2	
Marks, Marcia	X	X	X										-2	
Osuch, Kurt			X											
Simoneau, Craig	X	X	X										-1	
Sprague, Steve	X	X	X											
Violette, Ed	X	X	X											

